REFERENCE COPY

COMMANDERS DIGEST

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE • WASHINGTON, D.C.

RECEIVED
1 MAY 1969
ARMY LIBRARY
Acquisitions Section

Vol. 6, No. 3 April 19, 1969

Modern Naval Force Essential to U.S. Security

IRANIAN VISITORS—Lt. Gen. Hassan-Ali Manii (left), deputy commanding general, Iranian Ground Forces, and Lt. Gen. Fathollah Minbashian, commanding general, 3rd Army, Imperial Iranian Army (right), confer with Lt. Gen. Benjamin O. Davis, Jr. deputy commander in chief, U.S. Strike Command, during visit to USSTRICOM Headquarters at MacDill AFB, Fla.

With the Soviet Navy presenting a serious and growing threat to continued U.S. supremacy on the seas, a modern and balanced naval force to counter the danger is essential for both U.S. national security and foreign policy objectives.

With the framework of current U.S. commitments and the threat posed by the Soviet Navy in mind, Secretary of the Navy John H. Chafee made that point as he testified before the Senate Armed Services Committee April 1 on the FY 1970 budget, its implications and effect on the present and future U.S. posture.

Secretary Chafee noted that Secretary of Defense Melvin R. Laird had previously appeared before the committee and addressed many of the political, economic, and military considerations affecting the United States.

Mr. Chaffee said the Navy was guided by these factors in developing programs to provide deterrence or to counter the "formidable threat" to U.S. continued free use of the seas.

"Appreciation of the implications of the Soviet Union's dynamic maritime expansion is fundamental to an understanding of this threat," Secretary Chafee said.

Discussing Soviet seapower, the secretary told the committee that the USSR is alert to the political and psychological potential of seapower and employ it as a tool to increase their world-wide influence.

In terms of merchant and fishing fleets, Soviet ship construction and acquisition continues to outstrip our efforts by sizeable margins, he said, adding: "the Soviet flag is seen increasingly on the high seas and in harbors throughout the world."

Discussing specific hardware, Sec-

(Continued on Page 2, Column 3)

Today's Army Blending Military Capabilities Within Bounds of Country's National Effort

Gen. William C. Westmoreland, Army Chief of Staff, sees today's Army blending its military capabilities into an integrated whole, involving all of the instruments of national policy—political, economic, diplomatic—all a part of a well-orchestrated national effort.

An audience at Kansas State University, Manhattan, Kans., also heard the general declare, "The Army must not only be prepared and flexible to meet new and unforeseen requirements to support national programs, it must also be prepared to do so effectively within the bounds of our national style."

The address, delivered April 9, was Gen. Westmoreland's effort, as a lecturer, to bridge what he termed the abyss called the "generation gap."

Following are excerpts of the general's speech:

". . . in an effort to remain a political, let me acknowledge my awareness of the Selective Service issue. It is a deep philosophical question. If all are not to serve, who should serve? What are the economic and social implications of an all-volunteer force?

"As you know, President Nixon has recently appointed an Advisory Commission, composed of leading citizens, to study this matter in depth.

"I have purposely not gone into specifics on the Selective Service System—commonly called the draft—but I do want to make a point in passing. Contrary to what many people think, the Army has nothing to do with running the draft. The draft is run by an entirely separate agency of the government over which neither the

(Continued on Page 3, Column 2)

SECRETARY VISITS—Secretary of the Navy John H. Chafee (left), aboard carrier Oriskany receives an airplane briefing by VAdm. Allen M. Shinn, commander, Naval Air Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet (second from right) and an F-8 Crusader pilot, Lt. Bill Switzer III (right). In background are Secretary of the Navy's Aide Joseph A. Grime and Capt. Jack S. Kenyon, commanding officer of Oriskany.

Air Force to Terminate ROTC Units At Eight Universities by Sept. 1972

The Air Force plans to terminate ROTC units at eight universities and colleges over the next three years because of their inability to produce the required number of officers yearly.

Department of Defense minimum production standards set in 1965, require, that a detachment offering a four year, or combination of four and two-year programs, to produce 15 officers annually. A two-year program must produce 10 officers a year.

AFROTC detachments averaging less than these outputs are selected for disestablishment if there are not sufficient enrollments to meet the standard projected two years ahead.

All schools hosting AFROTC detachments were advised of the production criteria in 1966 and Air Force officials and institutional representatives worked closely together to raise productivity at low or potentially low schools.

In Feb., 1968, 18 schools were producing below the rate but by December of that year, 11 of them had enrolled enough students to meet the standard projected two years ahead.

The remaining seven selected for disestablishment and the dates are: Butler University, Indianapolis, Ind., Sept., 1972; Capital University, Columbus, Ohio, Sept., 1972; Grinnell College, Grinnell, Iowa, Sept., 1972; Illinois Institute of Technology, Chicago, Ill., Sept., 1972; Kenyon College, Gambier, Ohio, Sept., 1971; Lawrence University of Wisconsin, Appleton, Wisc., Sept., 1972; and Tufts University, Medford, Mass., Sept., 1972.

Boston University, Boston, Mass., will terminate its AFROTC program by Sept., 1969, through mutual negotiations between Air Force and school officials. It was projected to fall below production standards.

Air Force said the 167 AFROTC units remaining after the eight have been terminated will be able to meet the Air Force's annual requirement for officers produced by this program.

Modern Naval Force

(Continued from Page 1)

retary Chafee said new guided mi sile cruisers, frigates, helicopt carriers, amphibious ships, escort and patrol craft continue to join th Soviet Navy.

"The complementing and moder ized auxiliary fleet has enhanced S viet capability to project sustain naval power further than ever b fore," the committee was told.

But of even greater importance, said, was the fact that the Soviets a modernizing their submarine force the world's largest.

As to Soviet projection of nav power, the secretary told the Sena committee that two cruises of Sovi Navy ships were conducted in 19 in the Indian Ocean-Persian Gulf-R Sea areas. The first of these unprec dented operations, he said, lasted fo months and included "show the fla visits to ports of eight countries. T second, and still continuing operati has featured additional preceden breaking East African port calls ships from various Soviet fleets.

Turning to the Mediterranean, M Chafee noted "we have witnessed tense Soviet naval activity. Of p ticular interest to our Sixth Fleet a NATO," he said, "have been the op ations of new ships such as the h carrier Moskva, the shadowing Sixth Fleet units by Russian-ma bombers as well as Soviet surfa ships, and Soviet access to cert Arab naval and air bases . . .

"The capability to project milit power anywhere on the seas or littoral areas of the world is an i portant national security aspect of nation's military posture," the Na Secretary said, adding, "Soviet reco nition of this fact produces a situat for which we must be prepared."

COMMANDERS DIGEST

THIS PUBLICATION CONTAINS OF FICIAL INFORMATION, NEWS AN POLICY, DIRECT FROM WASHIN TON AUTHORIZED SOURCES.

Published weekly by Armed Force Press Service, 1117 N. 19th St., Arlin ton, Va. 22209, a unified activity of th Office of Information for the Arme Forces, OASD (M&RA). Reproductio of content is authorized. Suggeste dateline for materials used is WASH INGTON (AFPS).

Reference to Religious Terms Approved by Defense Secretary

Secretary of Defense Melvin R. Laird told the Army April 3 that references to religious terms in the Army's Character Guidance Programs would be appropriate.

In his statement, Mr. Laird said, "Certain misunderstandings have arisen regarding the Department of the Army's actions taken last year with respect to its Character Guidance Program. I believe it is appropriate and important to clarify this matter and to report the preliminary results of a study which I ordered when I learned of the previous actions.

"The Army in December 1968 made certain changes in its Character Guidance Program in order to clarify its purpose. The purpose of the Character Guidance Program in the Army, and comparable programs in the Navy, Air Force and Marine Corps, is to instill and strengthen patriotism and a sense of individual moral responsibility in members of the Armed Forces. These programs are sponsored by commanders in the field and are separate and apart from the religious programs conducted by chaplains of the Military Departments.

"The actions by the Department of the Army were concerned solely with its Character Guidance Program and in no way affect or otherwise interfere with the religious programs. All military chaplains have a continuing responsibility without restriction, to conduct worship services, to provide religious instruction and counseling to interested personnel and their families and to sponsor church related activities.

"With regard to Character Guidance Programs within the Military Departments I want to state that there will be no prohibition against the use of 'God,' 'Supreme Being,' 'Creator,' 'faith,' 'spiritual values' or similar words. References to these terms are appropriate for inclusion in the Character Guidance Program. However, all three Military Departments consistently have adhered to the position that espousal of religious dogmas or particular sectarian beliefs is not the purpose and has no place in the Character Guidance Program.

"The Assistant Secretary of Defense (M&RA) met yesterday (April 2) with senior representatives of the Chaplain Corps and representatives of the Military Departments and the General Counsel of the Department of Defense concerning the review which I have directed be conducted. Upon its completion, recommendations will be made to me."

STRICOM VISITOR—Maj. Gen Sepala Attygale (right), Commander, Ceylonese Army, is shown with Gen. Theodore J. Conway, Commander in Chief, U.S. Strike Command, after reviewing Army-Air Force honor guard at MacDill AFB, Fla.

Today's Army Blending Military Capabilities Within Bounds of Country's National Effort

(Continued from Page 1)

Army nor the Department of Defense has any control . . ."

On the subject of education in the Army's officer corps, the general said, ". . . nearly 90 per cent of the career officers in the Army today hold baccalaureate degrees — our goal, of course, is 100 per cent.

"Also, under a civilian schooling program, specially selected officers are trained at leading universities in order to meet specific needs which demand the higher disciplines associated with masters degrees and doctorates. Today, some 20 per cent of our career officers already hold advanced degrees; and we estimate that approximately 75 per cent of our career officers may expect the opportunity to gain advanced degrees during their service.

". . . obviously, current demands have added new dimensions to the challenges faced by our military commanders. As never before, the military is in need of generalists, not specialists—officers who are military men first and foremost but who have an awareness and appreciation of the other factors that inevitably have a bearing on military policy. Vietnam is, undoubtedly, the best example of our need for this type of leader."

This so-called war of national liberation being less than total (compared to WWI and WWII) is often more complex . . . often more demanding.

For this reason, more than ever before, Gen. Westmoreland said, the Army needs the leader who is the "spherical thinker . . . not the man with stovepipe vision.

"We need the man who finds exhilaration in the study of all aspects of mankind: man's capacity to love and hate, his willingness to serve and desire to govern, his thirst for truth . . . the man who is just and compassionate . . . the man who is a humanist. We need the leader who looks out for his men, who knows his position as a servant of our people . . . who has the wisdom to see beyond his present actions to what their consequences might be."

67 Nations Cooperate

INTELSAT'S GLOBAL NETWORK

By mid-summer of 1969 a completed worldwide net-work of communications satellites will be able to transmit information instantly to all areas of the globe.

The satellites are part of a remarkable system launched by the International Telecommunications Satellite Consortium (INTELSAT), an international joint venture formed at U.S. initiative in 1964 to establish and operate a single global commercial communications satellite system. Management of the Consortium is handled by the Communications Satellite Corporation (COMSAT), a private U.S. firm which is the U.S. entity in INTELSAT. The Consortium is now providing satellite service to two-thirds of the world via Atlantic and Pacific satellites.

In February of this year the then 67 member nations of INTELSAT met in Washington D.C. to discuss a permanent agreement to supercede present interim arrangements. Also attending the month-long conference were some 25 observers from the USSR, Mongolia, the Communist nations of Eastern Europe, and other countries.

Head of the U.S. delegation was Ambassador Leonard H. Marks, who was elected Chairman of the Conference. Below are excerpts from his opening address of February 24.

Five years ago the representatives of a handful of countries gathered to match a new technology with a new concept of international cooperation. The technology was the then experimental communications satellite. The new concept was a partnership of the world's nations to bring the benefits of this great technology to the service of all men. The result of their meeting was the Intelsat Consortium.

Those of us who took part in those early discussions had high hopes, of course. But even in our most extravagant moods, none of us, I am sure, would have dared to predict the accomplishments of the past 5 years. These accomplishments are reflected in this gathering of 67 nations who are now members of Intelsat.

Those of us gathered here represent countries which are widespread geographically as well as in economic status and political beliefs. But it is what unites us that has brought us together here. And what unites us is the mutual recognition that the future for us all—as individual nations and as members of the world community—is tied to our ability to communicate effectively with one another.

Foundations of World Peace

Better communications are the very foundation of world peace. Without them we cannot hope to dissolve suspicions that divide us or to build the works of peace. The more we know about what is common to us all, the less likely we are to fight over the issues which may set us apart.

We are meeting because a new technology offers us the promise of universal, low-cost, rapid communications. A decade ago communications satellites were a laboratory experiment. Today they are a reality affecting millions of men and women on every continent. In the near future they can reach every nation, no matter how small, whether remote or near.

It is this prospect which brings us together. It was this prospect 5 years ago which encouraged us to build upon the hopes we had then and to accomplish what we did. It is useful to recall these accomplishments:

• We are an organization of 67 countries who generate some 95 percent of the world's international communications.

• We are on the threshold of a worldwide communications system capable of providing telephone, telegraph, facsimile, television, radio and other services to all areas of the earth. The great Atlantic and Pacific Ocean Basins are already served by the satellite system. Soon, a satellite over the Indian Ocean will complete the worldwide system.

• We have installed 23 earth stations throughout the world, which service the satellites daily. There are 2 more earth stations in construction, and another 20 are in the planning stage. Within the next 2 years, most of our countries will be connected to the satellite system.

• Finally, Intelsat is a significant new form of international cooperation. It is the first commercial organiza

tion to be owned by a majority of the world's nations. Our countries have shared its costs, its services, and its benefits and responsibilities on an equitable, businesslike basis.

Pioneering New Forms of Cooperation

Credit . . . must be given to the willingness of the nations represented in Intelsat to dare to pioneer new forms of cooperation for the common good. They have exhibited the greatest confidence in the future of communications satellites, as shown by the Interim Communications Satellite Committee (ICSC) decision last year to authorize the great new Intelsat IV series of satellites. These satellites, containing as many as 10,000 circuits, will bring us truly into the era of high-capacity, reliable, low-cost global communications.

The quicker we can agree on permanent arrangements for the Intelsat system, the better off we all will be.

Communications for Developing Countries

This is especially true for the developing nations of Asia, Africa, and Latin America. Here the deficit in good communications is an urgent problem. Here is where communications must be harnessed to the aspirations of half the world's populations for a better life.

The satellites can help in this effort to catch up. They can help move the communications timetable a generation ahead for Asians, Africans, and Latin Americans.

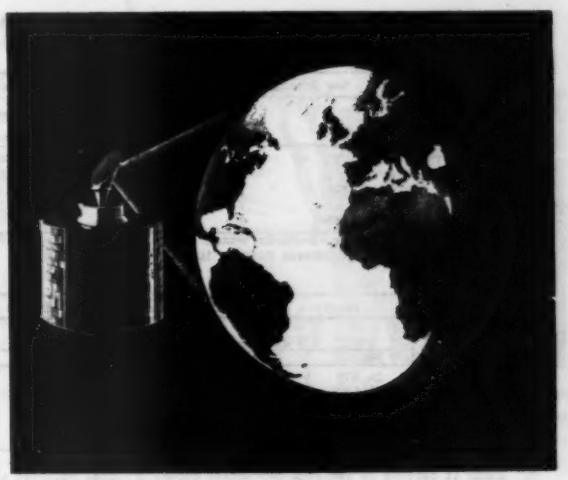
At one level, satellites can substantially improve the present communications between the industrialized Northern countries and the developing countries of the South, opening new vistas of trade, commerce, and social exchange.

But even more significantly, they can create a communications system where it has never existed before. This is communication among developing countries. Until now, Asians have not been able to talk directly to Africans, nor Africans directly to Latin Americans. The satellites have broken this anachronistic barrier. For the first time, we now have it within our power to communicate through all means of technology with our fellow men in any part of the world. With a permanent system, we can move ahead confidently to the full realization of these potentialities.

The satellites now, and in the future will, provide public communications services. We accept as a matter of course the transmission by satellite of television programs from faraway places.

They are also capable of providing additional services limited only by man's ingenuity. Recently there has been considerable discussion of using satellites for aeronautical and maritime communications.

They can be part of a global knowledge network, servicing libraries and computers in schools and research institutes in every nation. The cultural and scientific riches of East and West, of North and South, can, for the first time in human history, be opened to every man. They



GLOBAL SYSTEM—Shown above is the first of the new 1,200-circuit satellites of the INTELSAT III series which was launched on Dec. 18, 1968.

can service a worldwide medical information network, bringing diagnostic information to all doctors.

These are some of the longer range possibilities, reaching to the day when other, newer systems such as laser beams are developed. The Intelsat system should be flexible enough to expand and change with these developments.

Finally, I want to welcome to Washington those delegates who are attending as observers for countries who are not now members of Intelsat. In establishing Intelsat the hope has been expressed that all nations would join in a truly universal communications satellite system. I want to reaffirm that hope today.

"Cool Lines" to Reduce World Tensions

I can think of no more important first step we can take toward reducing world tensions than that of broadening the communications links between powerful nations representing different political systems. We should not rely just on a few "hot lines." We will all be better off when we have thousands of cool lines linking us—the big and the small, the rich and the poor, the powerful and the weak.

Today our satellites look down on earth from a distance of 22,000 miles. They see the earth as it truly is—the green-blue globe that is the home of us all. They see a world where no national boundaries are visible, no divisive lines between men of differing races, or economic circumstances, or ideologies. The map may show hard lines dividing neighboring countries, but the satellite erases all of these artificial boundaries and sees no oceans, mountains, or man-made barriers. By rising above both geographical and man-made divisions, they can serve us all in building the works of peace.

PROJECT ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND

New Standards Accessions in Phase I and II (October 1966 to September 1968) Compared to Quota

	Quota a/	Achieved			Over or Under Quota
		Total	Mental	Medically Remedial b/	
Department of the Army	96,100	96,985	94,785	2,200	+885
Department of the Navy	16,000	16,579	13,334	3,245	+579
Department of the Air Force	13,700	13,735	11,261	2,474	+ 35
Marine Corps	14,200	13,368	12,465	903	-832
Total Department of Defense	140,000	140,667	131,845	8,822	+667

a/ Combined quota for New Standards mental accessions and Medically Remedials.
b/ Medically Remedial Enlistment Program initiated February 1967.

Progress in Meeting New Standards (N/S) Quotas in Phase III - 1 October 1968-31 January 1969 c/

	N/S Quota - 4 Mos d/			Achieved - 4 Mos			Credit for Phase II Overages	Total N/S Creditable to Quota e/	Progress Rating f/
	Mental	Physical	Total	Mental	Physical	Total N/S			
Army	14,675	598	15,273	18,205	1,044	19,249	885	20,134	132%
Navy	4,132	918	5,050	3,696	1,070	4,766	579	5,345	106%
Air Force	3,285	730	4,015	3,252	704	3,956	35	3,991	99%
Marine Corps	3,696	283	3,979	3,711	463	4,174	-	4,174	105%
Total DoD	25,788	2,529	28,317	28,864	3,281	32,145	1,499	33,644	119%

c/ Phase III is a 9-month period, 1 October 1968 to 30 June 1969, to align program with fiscal year.
d/ Quota is derived by applying percentage quotas to total enlisted accessions.
e/ Services which exceeded the Phase II quotas (Army, Navy, Air Force) receive credit for their overage toward meeting their Phase III quotas.
f/ Total creditable to quota as a % of quota.

Characteristics of New Mental Standards Men Accepted October 1, 1966 to Sept 30, 1968

Race		Average Age	Educational Level		Reading Ability		Employment Status	
White	59.6%	20.5	Average Grades Completed	10.6	Average Grade Level	6.2	% Unemployed	40.7%
Negro	38.8%		% High School Graduates	44.8%	% Below 4th Grade	14.5%	% Earning $60 or	
Other	1.6%				% Below 5th Grade	31.1%	less per week	16.8%
					% Below 6th Grade	47.2%	Total	57.5%

Performance in Basic Training (Men who fail to graduate Basic Training are normally discharged)

	Graduation Rates and Extra Help Required by Mental Group						Graduation Rates for New Stds Men Compared to Other Men i/		
	Gr. IV (Armed Forces Qual Test 10-30)				Groups I, II, III	Total I, II, III, IV		New Stds	Other Men
	10-15 g/	16-20 g/	21-30	Total					
Graduation Rate									
10/66 to 9/68 (24 mo)	95.6%	96.2%	96.5%	96.2%	98.0%	97.6%	Army	97.0%	98.1%
10/68 to 12/68 (3 mo)	94.3%	95.4%	96.2%	95.4%	97.9%	97.4%	Navy	90.9	97.5
							Air Force	90.9	97.1
% Requiring Extra Help h/							Marine Corps	91.5	96.1
10/66 to 9/68 (24 mo)	12.2%	9.7%	8.7%	9.9%	4.2%	5.5%	Total DoD	95.4%	97.7%
10/68 to 12/68 (3 mo)	16.6%	12.2%	10.0%	12.4%	5.1%	6.5%			

g/ Most New Standards men are included in these two lower Group IV categories.
h/ Recycling or remedial help in Special Training Companies.
i/ For men who entered service Oct 1966 to June 1968 and completed training Sept 1968.

Performance in Advanced Training-Attrition Rates in Entry Level Courses Attended by New Standards j/

DoD Occupational Groups	Army Aug 67 to Nov 68 (145 Courses)		Navy Feb 67 to Nov 68 (47 Courses)		Air Force Apr 67 to Dec 68 (60 Courses)	
	New Stds Men	All Others k/	New Stds Men	All Others k/	New Stds Men	All Others k/
Infantry, Gun Crews & Seamanship	2.8%	1.8%	Not App	Not App	Not App	Not App
All Other Occupations	14.0	2.3	14.0%	6.5%	12.4%	4.0%
Total Occupations	9.1%	4.1%	14.0%	6.5%	12.4%	4.0%

j/ Includes attrition for academic, physical and administrative reasons. Men who fail to graduate in advanced training courses are normally reassigned to another type of training or sent to units for on-the-job training. Data pertaining to Marine Corps attrition is currently being audited.
k/ Attrition data for "all others" is based on current or past experience for men attending same courses as New Standards Men.

Assignment of New Standards Men by Occupational Area l/

	New Standards Men					Other Men	Enlisted Pay Grade Attained After 19-21 Months Service m/		
	Army	Navy	Air Force	Marine Corps	DoD	DoD		New Stds Men	Other Men
Infantry, Gun Crews & Seamanship	42.4%	31.8%	Not App	68.4%	39.5%	24.2%			
Service and Supply Handlers	18.7	16.9	36.3%	21.4	20.3	13.5	E-1	3.8%	0.8%
Electrical/Mechanical Equip Repairmen	16.8	32.2	7.5	3.5	16.4	21.2	E-2	10.7	3.0
Administrative Specialists & Clerks	9.0	6.0	28.5	3.2	10.1	16.5	E-3	33.2	37.2
Craftsmen	4.2	8.3	23.7	1.9	6.2	4.7	E-4	44.7	47.9
All Other Occupational Areas	8.9	4.8	4.0	1.6	7.5	19.9	E-5 or Higher	7.6	11.1
Total Occupations	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%		100.0%	100.0%

l/ For New Standards Men assigned to units as of 30 Sept 68.
m/ Pay grade as of 30 Sept 68 for N/S men entering service Jan-Mar 67 and for other men with same length of service.

Project One Hundred Thousand Has Exceeded Projected Goals

A new report from "Project One Hundred Thousand" shows that through the first 28 months of operation, the program is running well ahead of its projected goals.

During this time, 172,812 "New Standards" men, or those who are acceptable under revised test scores and educational standards as well as for correctable physical defects, were taken into the Armed Forces. The goal for the 28-month period was 168,317.

Mr. I. M. Greenberg, director of the program, said that most New Standards men are satisfactory servicemen. He stated, "New Mental Standards men do not perform as well as the Control Group men when they are compared in terms of training attrition, promotions, supervisory ratings, offenses and attrition from service. The differences are low and are at an acceptable level."

(See Chart on Page 6)

The Control Group is made up of specified men who come into the military service under regular standards. They are used as a comparison with the New Standards men.

Project One Hundred Thousand was started in October, 1966, when the Department of Defense revised the entrance standards for military service and began accepting men who would have been disqualified in the past because of failure to meet the mental standards and for physical defects which are easily correctible. This special group of troops are identified as "New Standards" men.

Mr. Greenberg emphasized that, while entrance standards have been revised, "performance standards have not been lowered." He said the New Standards men must meet the same criteria as other men for graduating training courses, for advancement and for retention in the service.

They are not singled out or stigmatized in any manner. After completion of basic training, they are trained in a military skill through formal courses or by on-the-job-training. Mr. Greenberg said there are provisions at all stages of training for giving them extra help during training, if they need assistance.

Phase III of the program, which began in October, 1968 and which will run through June, is expected to bring into the service about 70,000 New Standards men. At the end of January, 32,145 had already been accepted.

During the first 28 months, nearly 10 percent of all enlisted non-prior service accessions were New Standards men and 67 percent of these have gone to the Army. About 53 percent were volunteers.

For DoD as a whole, 95.4 percent of the New Mental Standards men successfully completed basic training, compared to a success rate of 97.7 percent for all other men.

The report points out that New Standards men perform significantly better in combat-type training courses and the simpler technical courses than in the more technical training areas. They tend to perform best in training courses which stress practical work and do not require significant reading and mathematical abilities. This can probably be related to the fact that, although they have an average of 10.6 school grades completed, their average reading and arithmetic ability is at the 6th grade level.

Aside from the combat type skills, the most common assignments for New Standards men are in food service, supply, wire communications, motor transport and automotive repair.

In promotions, after 19 to 21 months of service, 52 percent of the New Mental Standards men in grade E-4 and above, compared to 59 percent for the Control Group.

About 6 percent of the New Standards men who entered the service up to December 1968 were sent to remedial reading courses during basic training. About 80 percent complete the courses and gain almost two grade levels upon completion.

The attrition from service rate for New Standards men is higher than for the control group, "but at an acceptable level" the report says. As of Sept. 30, 1968, the DoD attrition from service for New Standards with 19-21 months service was 11.6 percent compared to 5.9 percent for the Control Group.

Mr. Greenberg said a very high proportion of New Standards men qualify as fully satisfactory servicemen when exposed to the modern instructional techniques used in the Armed Forces. As a by-product, their service would prepare them for more productive lives when they returned to civilian life.

He said, "The revision in entrance standards is also resulting in a more equitable sharing of the opportunities and obligations for military service among the Nation's youth."

OFFICIAL OPENING—VAdm. Luther C. Heinz, commander Amphibious Force U.S. Atlantic Fleet, cuts ribbon opening the door of the Amphibious Maintenance Support Unit calibration laboratory at Little Creek, Va. The new lab will allow electronics equipment from Force ships to be calibrated and returned in a shorter time. From left are Master Chief Electronics Technician J. W. Jamison, shop supervisor; Lt. L. D. Merten, electronic material officer; Capt. C. S. Davis, Jr., assistant chief of staff for engineering; Lt. Cdr. W. J. Leach, executive officer of AMSU; Adm. Heinz, and Cdr. M. Katz, commanding officer of AMSU.

Status of Prisoners of War Requested at Paris Peace Talks

Thousands of telegrams and messages have been received by President Nixon, Ambassador Lodge, and other U.S. officials urging that in the Paris peace talks top priority be given to the problem of prisoners of war.

The subject of American prisoners in Vietnam has been a matter of active and continuing concern at the highest levels of government since 1963.

The Defense Department's two highest ranking officials have expressed deep concern about the welfare of captured U.S. servicemen and those who have been listed as missing in action.

Secretary of Defense Melvin R. Laird and Deputy Secretary of Defense David Packard expressed their concern with the welfare of families of these servicemen.

Secretary of State William P. Rogers also has reaffirmed this government's commitment to continue to do everything possible to assist and protect Americans held by North Vietnam and the Viet Cong, to obtain their earliest release, and to encourage full compliance with the 1949 Geneva convention.

According to latest Defense Department records, 337 Americans have been captured or interned by the enemy in Southeast Asia, and another 986 are listed as missing in action, many of whom may be prisoners.

In addition, a number of American civilians are believed to have been captured by Communist forces in South Vietnam. The total of military and civilian prisoners is not known for certain because the North Vietnamese and the Viet Cong have refused to comply with the 1949 Geneva Convention Relative to the Treatment of Prisoners of War which requires, among other things, that lists of prisoners be furnished the International Committee of the Red Cross. This convention has been accepted by 123 countries, including North Vietnam, which agreed to it June 28, 1957.

The U.S. Government repeatedly has appealed to North Vietnam and to the Communist National Liberation Front to treat prisoners of war humanely, and to respect the requirements of the Geneva convention by which they are bound.

The Geneva convention establishes standards for PW camps and for the food, clothing, and medical care of prisoners of war. It regulates the labor and the disciplining of prisoners and guarantees them the services of a "Protecting Power," as well as communication with their families.

Finally, it guarantees the right of repatriation. Seriously sick and wounded prisoners must be allowed to return home as soon as they are fit to travel, even if hostilities continue.

The United States, South Vietnam, and our allies have applied the convention in the current hostilities.

The government of South Vietnam holds more than 20,000 enemy prisoners of war in six camps which are regularly visited by representatives of the International Committee of the Red Cross.

For some time the North Vietnamese authorities have made public and private statements to the effect that their policy regarding treatment of American prisoners is a humane one. The State Department has said that this cannot be verified because of North Vietnam's refusal to permit representatives of a neutral country or the International Committee of the Red Cross to visit the Americans.

There have been numerous incidents of abuse of American prisoners. U.S. airmen have been paraded through the streets of Hanoi and subjected to "staged" TV interviews. Some captured U.S. servicemen have been murdered by the Viet Cong. All of these acts have been vigorously protested by the U.S. Government.

Thus far, the enemy has released only a handful of U.S. servicemen. It has rejected U.S. proposals for an exchange of prisoners "at any time and in any appropriate way, using intermediaries or directly, by public means or privately."

The U.S. Government will, however, continue to use every available channel to effect the speedy and safe return of all prisoners held by North Vietnam and the Viet Cong.

VISITS THAILAND—Dr. Billy Graham, world famous evangelist, talks with Maj. Gen. Hal D. McCown (USA), Commander, U.S. Military Assistance Command, Thailand/Chief, Joint U.S. Military Advisory Group, Thailand. Reverend Graham stopped in Bangkok following a two-month tour to Australia and countries in the South Pacific.

For sale by the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402.
Price 5 cents (single copy). Subscription Price: $2.50 per year; $3.25 additional for foreign mailing.
☆ U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1969 342-474 / A-44